

# America Flies!



## Security Tips for Air Travelers



From ALPA, DOT, and FAA

On September 11, the world changed. Our freedom, including our freedom of mobility, was attacked. We have restored that freedom.

America's airports are operating under an unprecedented level of security. Airlines are taking a number of steps, including strengthening cockpit doors and monitoring access to the cockpit. The FAA has significantly increased the use of baggage screening technology at the nation's major airports. We dramatically increased the number of Federal Air Marshals on flights worldwide. You will see National Guardsmen at airports and increased vigilance during check-in and at baggage screening checkpoints. The FAA has also ordered many security measures that are not visible to the public.

Everyone in the aviation community — from baggage handlers to pilots — has a renewed sense of commitment and an unwavering resolve to make our nation's aviation system safe and secure.

You have an important role to play. The tips in this brochure will help us ensure the highest standards of safety and security.

Norman Y. Mineta  
U.S. Secretary of  
Transportation

Jane E. Garvey  
FAA Administrator



The airline pilots of the United States and Canada know the importance of safety and security in air travel. That's why for 70 years we've worked with the government, the airline industry, and other labor groups to advance those causes and to help make air travel the safest mode of transportation. Most recently, in response to the events of September 11, these collaborations have yielded significant enhancements to security in airports and aboard airplanes.

Now, the pilots want to enlist you in the collaboration for heightened air-travel security. You can play an important role by knowing what to expect, by being patient, by observing the new rules, and by speaking up if you see or experience anything that concerns you.

The 66,000 members of the Air Line Pilots Association, International, thank you for returning to air travel. Let us assure you that we're doing everything we can to make your experience as safe, secure, comfortable, and enjoyable as possible. Let's push the throttles forward together. America, let's fly!

Sincerely,

Capt. Duane E. Woerth, President  
Air Line Pilots Association, Int'l



## Before You Leave

*When you are preparing for your trip, remember to pack smart — pack safe. You cannot bring the items listed below on your person or in carry-on luggage.*

- Knives of any length, composition, or description.
- All cutting and puncturing instruments. This includes pocketknives, carpet knives and box cutters, ice picks, straight razors, metal scissors, and metal nail files.
- Corkscrews.
- Athletic equipment that could be used as a weapon, such as baseball/softball bats, golf clubs, pool cues, ski poles, and hockey sticks.
- Weapons — firearms, ammunition, gunpowder, mace, tear gas, or pepper spray.
- Aerosol spray cans — hair spray, deodorant, insect repellent, or butane fuel (such as in curling iron refills, scuba tanks, propane tanks, cartridges, and self-inflating rafts).
- Explosives — fireworks, sparklers, or signal flares.
- Flammable liquids or solids — fuel, paints, paint thinners or cleaners, lighter fluid, and perfume (no more than 16 oz.).
- Other hazardous items — dry ice, gas-powered tools, wet-cell batteries, camping equipment with fuel, radioactive materials, poisons, infectious substances.
- Leave gifts unwrapped. Airline security personnel will open gifts if the X-ray scan cannot determine the contents.
- If in doubt, don't pack it.

## Allow Extra Time

- Arrive early. Heightened airport security measures increase the time needed to check in. Arriving at the airport two hours before your flight's scheduled departure is advisable. Build in even more time at the airport if traveling with young children, infants, or persons with disabilities.

- Consider taking public transportation to the airport, if possible. Parking and curbside access will be controlled and limited.
- Curbside check-in is available only at specific locations. Contact your airline to see if it is available for your flight.
- Do not leave your car unattended in front of the terminal. Security measures dictate that unattended cars will be towed.

## At the Airport

- Watch your bags and personal belongings at all times.
- Do not accept packages from strangers.
- If you see unattended bags or packages anywhere in the airport terminal or parking area, immediately report them to a security officer or other authority.
- Report any suspicious activities or individuals in the airport or parking lot to airport security.
- Don't joke about having a bomb or firearm. Don't discuss terrorism, weapons, explosives, or other threats while going through the security checkpoint. The mere mention of words such as "gun," "bomb," etc., can compel security personnel to detain and question you. They are trained to consider these comments as real threats.

## Checking In

- Adult passengers must bring a government-issued photo ID. The FAA requires that air carriers request government-issued identification, such as a driver's license or draft card, if the passenger appears old enough to have an ID. If a government-issued photo ID is not available, bring two pieces of ID, one of which must be from a governmental authority.
- E-ticket travelers should check with their airline to make sure they have proper documentation.

- Automated kiosks are available for airlines that have appropriate security measures in place. Travelers interested in this option should check with their airlines.
- Be prepared to answer questions about your bags. When asked who packed your bags and if you might have left them unattended at any time, think carefully and answer the questions honestly. Criminals may use unsuspecting passengers to carry bombs or other dangerous items onto aircraft.
- Be cooperative as screeners ask to hand-search your bags. Security personnel will search a bag if the X-ray scan cannot determine its contents.

## Screener Checkpoints

- Only ticketed passengers are allowed beyond the screener checkpoints, unless a passenger requires parental oversight or must be accompanied by a medical assistant.
- Travelers are limited to one carry-on bag and one personal item (e.g., purse or briefcase).
- Electronic items, such as laptop computers and cell phones, may be subjected to additional screening. Be prepared to remove your laptop from its travel case so it can be X-rayed separately.

## On the Airplane

- Listen carefully to the flight attendant's safety instructions. Note where the closest exit to your seat is located.
- Wear your seat belt.
- Report unattended items to your flight attendant.



**Security Tips from the Air Line Pilots Assn., Int'l,  
the U.S. Department of Transportation, and  
the Federal Aviation Administration**